

TYCO 17674 (AT 20958-2034)
PATENT

Claim Amendments

1-14. (cancelled).

15. (currently amended) A connector device comprising:

a first connector including a housing having opposing sides and a conductive connecting device mounted in the housing; and

a second connector including a housing having opposing sides and a conductive connecting device mounted in the housing;

at least one of said opposing sides of said first connector being removably connected to one of said opposing sides of said second connector by an ultrasonic weld, whereby said first connector is separable from said second connector by breaking said ultrasonic weld such that said first connector forms an individual connector unit.

16-17. (cancelled)

18. (previously presented) The connector device of Claim 15, wherein said housings are formed of a nonconductive material.

19. (previously presented) The connector device of Claim 18, wherein said housings are formed of a polycarbonate material.

20. (previously presented) The connector device of Claim 18, wherein said housings are formed of a polyester material.

21. (previously presented) The connector device of Claim 15, wherein said housings are formed of a polypropylene material.

TYCO 17674 (AT 20958-2034)
PATENT

22. (previously presented) The connector device of Claim 15, where said first connector housing is formed of one nonconductive material and said second connector housing is formed of a second nonconductive material.

23. (previously presented) The connector device of Claim 15, wherein said conductive connecting device in each of said housings is a crimping device adjacent to a channel defined in each of said housings.

24. (previously presented) The connector device of Claim 23, wherein said first and second connectors further include a crimping portion capable of engaging said crimping device.

25. (cancelled)

26. (previously presented) A connector stick device comprising:
a plurality of connectors;
each of said connectors including a conductive connecting device mounted in a housing having opposing sides; and
wherein at least one of said opposing sides of each said connector is removably connected to one of said opposing sides of an adjacent said connector by an ultrasonic weld, and further wherein each said connector is separable from its adjacent said connector by breaking said ultrasonic weld to form an individual connector unit.

27-29. (cancelled)

30. (previously presented) A connector stick device in accordance with claim 26 wherein said housings comprise first and second portions movable relative to one another.

31. (previously presented) A connector stick device in accordance with claim 26 wherein each said conductive connecting device comprises a crimping device.

TYCO 17674 (AT 20958-2034)
PATENT

32. (previously presented) A connector stick device in accordance with claim 26 wherein said housings each comprise a channel for receiving cabling, and a crimping device proximate said channel.

33. (previously presented) A connector stick device in accordance with claim 26 wherein said opposing sides are nonconductive.

34. (currently amended) A connector assembly for splicing cable with an automatic crimping tool, said connector assembly comprising:

a plurality of nonconductive housings joined to one another by respective ultrasonic welds to form a connector stick, each of said housings holding a conductive connecting device and having at least one opening for passage of electrical cabling to the conductive connecting device, wherein said plurality of joined nonconductive housings are separable from one another by breaking said respective ultrasonic welds as the cable is spliced thereto to form to successive said conductive connecting devices along the connector stick, thereby forming a plurality of individual connector units.

35. (cancelled)

36. (previously presented) A connector stick assembly in accordance with claim 34 wherein said housings comprise first and second portions movable relative to one another.

37. (previously presented) A connector stick assembly in accordance with claim 36 wherein each said conductive connecting device comprises a crimping device.

38. (previously presented) A connector stick assembly in accordance with claim 34 wherein said housings each comprise a channel for receiving cabling, and a crimping device proximate said channel.

TYCO 17674 (AT 20958-2034)
PATENT

39. (currently amended) A method for splicing cable to a plurality of connectors, said method comprising:

providing a plurality of individual connectors, each said connector including a housing, at least one cable opening, and at least one conductive crimping device proximate the opening;

joining the connectors to one another by respective ultrasonic welds to form a connector stick for splicing operations;

inserting cable into the openings of each of the joined connectors; and

securing the cable to each of the connectors using the conductive crimping device, wherein force generated in securing the cable to the respective connectors separates the respective connectors from the connector stick by breaking the respective ultrasonic welds, thereby forming a plurality of individual connector units each having cable spliced thereto.

40. (cancelled)

41. (currently amended) A method for splicing cable to a plurality of connectors, said method comprising:

providing a plurality of individual connectors, each said connector including a first housing portion and a second housing portion movable relative to one another, a cable opening in one of the first and second housing portions, and a conductive crimping device in the other of the first and second housing portions;

bonding the connectors to one another with respective ultrasonic welds to form a connector stick for splicing operations;

inserting cable into an opening of one of the joined connectors; and

breaking the ~~bond~~ ultrasonic weld between the one connector and an adjacent connector while securing the cable to the one connector using the conductive crimping device.

42. (previously presented) A stick of electrical connectors comprising:

a plurality of electrical connectors disposed side-by-side, each of said connectors including a conductive connecting device mounted in a non-conductive housing, said connectors being joined together by respective ultrasonic welds between adjacent said housings, wherein

TYCO 17674 (AT 20958-2034)
PATENT

said connectors are individually separable from the stick by breaking said ultrasonic welds to form individual connector units.